



AN ACT OF KINDNESS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE CONTEST

You may have seen the movie *Pay It Forward* or read the book with the same title written by Catherine Ryan Hyde. It is about a teacher who starts a movement with a voluntary, extra credit assignment: **Think of an idea for positive change in the world and put it into action.** A student, who is the hero of *Pay It Forward*, comes up with the idea to do something good for three people. When these people ask how they can pay back the kind deed or gesture, he tells them to Pay It Forward to three more people. This chain of passing along an act of kindness has a ripple effect and multiplies kindness quickly affecting a large number of people in a short time.

Within our communities, there are so many things that each of us could do. We could get involved in helping the homeless or underprivileged, tackling the problems of youth violence, literacy issues, pollution, and at-risk youth, speaking out against the ethnic slurs and jokes as well as the hate music, appreciating and celebrating our ethnic, religious, and cultural differences, and the list goes on.

We ask you to look beyond yourself and make a difference in someone's life. Sometimes, it is just as easy as smiling at someone who is feeling sad or including an individual who is alone. Even a simple act of kindness can make a tremendous difference and, in turn, can positively affect others.

We are asking students to share their experience with us and how it changed someone's life. We will award the top two student entries with a \$100 United States Savings Bond and each of the winners will have their names inscribed on our wall of "Students Making a Difference." The winners will also share their entries at our Annual Meeting in June.

All grades K-12

KINDNESS
Pass It On

Please include your name, grade, school, school address, teacher, phone number and e-mail address, if you have one. **The deadline for entries is April 15, 2011.** Winners will be announced May, 2, 2011.

Please submit your entry to us at:

Student Act of Kindness
c/o Merle R. Saferstein
Holocaust Documentation and Education Center, Inc.
2031 Harrison Street
Hollywood, FL 33020

Entries can also be e-mailed to merle@hdec.org



Holocaust Documentation and Education Center, Inc.

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We look forward to hearing from you and thank you in advance for joining us in our efforts to make a difference in the lives of others.